



An tOmbudsman Seirbhísí
Airgeadais agus Pinsean

Financial Services and
Pensions Ombudsman

The Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman is holding a competition for the purpose of recommending suitable persons for appointment to the position of:

**Strategic Assistant, Department of the Ombudsman
(Higher Executive Officer)**

Candidate Information Booklet

Closing date: 1pm (GMT), 18th September 2026



The Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman runs this campaign in compliance with the Codes of Practice for Appointment to Positions in the Civil Service and Public Service prepared by the Commission for Public Service Appointments (CPSA) which are available on www.cpsa.ie.

The Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman is committed to a policy of equal opportunity.

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About the FSPO

The Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman (FSPO) was established to resolve complaints from consumers, including small businesses and other organisations, against financial service providers or pension providers.

The FSPO provides an independent, fair, impartial, confidential and free service to resolve complaints through either informal mediation or formal investigation and adjudication. When a consumer is unable to resolve a complaint or dispute with a financial service provider or pension provider, they can refer their complaint to the FSPO.

More information about the FSPO is available at www.fspo.ie, including:

- Video: [What happens when we receive your complaint](#)
- Video: [What to expect during Dispute Resolution](#)
- Video: [What to expect during the Investigation process](#)
- [FSPO Strategic Plan 2025 - 2027](#)
- [Overview of Complaints 2025](#)

The FSPO is an equal opportunities employer, and we welcome applications from across the spectrum of society to join our open, supportive organisation and reflect the diversity of our service users.

About this competition

The FSPO is seeking to recruit suitable candidates to be placed on a panel for the role of Strategic Assistant in the Department of the Ombudsman at Higher Executive Officer Grade.

The FSPO operates under a team structure comprising:

- Department of the Ombudsman
- Corporate and Communication Services
- Registration and Early Resolution
 - Registry & Assessment
 - Customer Experience & Innovation
 - Dispute Resolution Services
- Investigation Services
- Adjudication Services
- Legal Services
- IT

The FSPO may establish a panel from this campaign. Successful candidates will be placed on a panel from which appointments may be made. There is one current vacancy. The current vacancy, and any subsequent vacancies which may arise prior to the expiry of the panel, will be offered to candidates placed on the panel based on the Order of Merit from interview outcome. Once an offer of appointment has been accepted or rejected by a candidate, a candidate will be removed from the panel and no further offers of appointment will be made to that candidate. Any panel formed as part of this campaign which is not exhausted through appointment of candidates to current or future vacancies will expire 2 years from the date of creation of the panel.

Successful candidates, in accordance with the Order of Merit, may be offered alternative roles at the grade of Higher Executive Officer in other areas of the FSPO, should the FSPO identify vacancies suitable to the requirements for this competition while the panel is in place. If a candidate rejects an offer of an alternative role within the FSPO, that candidate will remain on this panel for the role of Strategic Assistant in the Department of the Ombudsman at Higher Executive Officer Grade.

About the Strategic Assistant in the Department of the Ombudsman (Higher Executive Officer) Role

The successful candidate will report directly to a Deputy Ombudsman. The Strategic Assistant to the Deputy Ombudsman is a key support role, providing high-level, confidential, administrative and strategic assistance to one of the Deputy Ombudsmen. The successful candidate will work closely with the Deputy Ombudsman to ensure effective stakeholder engagement, efficient operations, and delivery of key priorities. This role requires strong analytical ability, excellent organisational skills, and the capacity to act as a trusted adviser.

Job Description

The Strategic Assistant will be responsible for:

- Providing high-level, confidential administrative support to the Deputy Ombudsman.
- Acting as a point of contact for the Deputy Ombudsman and manage administrative tasks such as inbox management, communications, and calendar coordination.
- Supporting the Deputy Ombudsman's internal and external engagements, including attending meetings, drafting correspondence, and preparing presentations.
- Triaging requests and issues where appropriate and redirecting issues that do not require the Deputy Ombudsman's attention.
- Managing correspondence to the Deputy Ombudsman.
- Supporting the Deputy Ombudsman's complaint adjudication process by reviewing documentation and researching and analysing issues.
- Assisting in document production including drafting, proofreading and formatting correspondence and documents according to FSPO standards.

- File management, maintaining highly confidential physical and electronic files, ensuring complaint files are accurate and up to date.
- Delivering against key internal work deadlines and meeting dates and planning work accordingly.
- Working efficiently to produce minutes, notes/follow-up emails and delivering on tasks and actions arising from meetings. Booking meetings as required and greeting any external visitors.
- Liaising regularly with other teams in the FSPO.
- Assisting with data analysis, project tracking, and driving deliverables to completion.
- Proactively anticipating and addressing requirements to ensure smooth operations.
- Serving as a trusted adviser, providing meaningful input and feedback.
- Undertaking other tasks as required by the Deputy Ombudsman.

The responsibilities outlined in this job description should not be regarded as comprehensive in scope and may be added to or altered as required, in line with the requirements of the FSPO. The duties appropriate to the post will be determined by the Ombudsman and may cover a range of activities allowing for maximum flexibility according to the needs of the FSPO.



Experience, Qualifications & Personal Qualities Required

Candidates must demonstrate, by reference to specific achievements in their career to date, that they possess the necessary experience, skills, knowledge and competencies as required for the role of Higher Executive Officer as identified by the Public Appointments Service Higher Executive Officer level competency framework set out in Appendix 1, and as listed below:

- Team Leadership
- Judgement, Analysis and Decision Making
- Management and Delivery of Results
- Interpersonal & Communication Skills
- Specialist Knowledge, Expertise and Self Development
- Drive and Commitment to Public Service Values

Personal Qualities Required

In order to be effective in the role of Strategic Assistant (Higher Executive Officer) in the FSPO, the successful candidate should be:

- Extremely organised with strong attention to detail
- A strategic thinker with sound judgement
- Comfortable with evidence-based decision making
- A relationship builder and an effective communicator (written and verbal)
- Enthusiastic about building processes to support efficiency and assurance
- Consistent in demonstrating a strong delivery focus and commitment to results
- Discreet, calm and trustworthy with a clear sense of the role and key support needs of the Deputy Ombudsman.

Essential Requirements

Candidates must demonstrate:

Education and Experience:

- A recognised qualification (Level 7 or higher) in the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ)

OR

At least three years' professional experience in one or more of the following:

- Executive support at senior leadership level.
- Experience in a legal or financial services (including insurance, banking and

- pensions), or regulatory role or within an Ombudsman Scheme.
- Complaints handling or regulatory environments.
- Legal or other relevant professional service environment including but not necessarily as a paralegal or legal assistant.

Experience in at least one of:

- Managing complex tasks and priorities.
- Working collaboratively with senior management.

Skills:

- Strong verbal and written communication skills.
- Excellent attention to detail.
- Ability to manage sensitive information with discretion.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite

Competencies

- Must be able to demonstrate that they possess the competencies identified for effective performance at **Higher Executive Officer** level as set out in Appendix A.

Desirable Requirements

In addition to the essential requirements, it would be a decided advantage for candidates to demonstrate one or more of the following:

- Experience in project management and process improvement.
- Familiarity with reporting tools or management information reports.
- Experience in leading or contributing to process design and delivery.

Important Note in Eligibility

An invitation to tests, interview or any element of the selection process is not acceptance of eligibility. Eligibility may not be confirmed until the final stage of the process.

Candidates who do not possess the essential requirements, on the closing date of 1pm on 18th September 2026, and who nevertheless proceed with their application, are putting themselves to unnecessary effort/expense and will not be offered a position from this campaign.

Candidates who are unable to show that they hold the qualifications outlined in their application may be eliminated from the campaign at any stage.

Other Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility to compete and certain restrictions on eligibility:

Candidates must, by the date of any job offer, be:

- a) A citizen of the European Economic Area (EEA). The EEA consists of the Member States of the European Union, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway; or
- b) A citizen of the United Kingdom (UK); or
- c) A citizen of Switzerland pursuant to the agreement between the EU and Switzerland on the free movement of persons; or
- d) A non-EEA citizen who has a stamp 4 visa: or
- e) A person awarded international protection under the International Protection Act 2015, or a family member entitled to remain in the State as a result of family reunification and has a stamp 4 visa or
- f) A non-EEA citizen who is a parent of a dependent child who is a citizen of, and resident in, an EEA member state or the UK or Switzerland and has a stamp 4 visa.

Collective Agreement: Redundancy Payments to Public Servants

The Department of Public Expenditure and Reform letter dated 28 June 2012 to Personnel Officers introduced, with effect from 1 June 2012, a Collective Agreement which had been reached between the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform and the Public Services Committee of the ICTU in relation to ex-gratia Redundancy Payments to Public Servants. It is a condition of the Collective Agreement that persons availing of the agreement will not be eligible for re-employment in the Public Service by any Public Service body (as defined by the Financial Emergency Measures in the Public Interest Acts 2009 – 2011) for a period of 2 years from termination of the employment. People who availed of this scheme and who may be successful in this competition will have to prove their eligibility (expiry of period of non-eligibility).

Incentivised Scheme for Early Retirement (ISER)

It is a condition of the Incentivised Scheme for Early Retirement (ISER) as set out in Department of Finance Circular 12/09 that retirees, under that Scheme, are not eligible to apply for another position in the same employment or the same sector. Therefore, such retirees may not apply for this position.

Department of Health and Children Circular (7/2010)

The Department of Health Circular 7/2010 dated 1 November 2010 introduced a Targeted Voluntary Early Retirement (VER) Scheme and Voluntary Redundancy Schemes (VRS). It is a condition of the VER scheme that persons availing of the scheme will not be eligible for re-employment in the public health sector or in the wider Public Service or in a body wholly or mainly funded from public monies. The same prohibition on re-employment applies under the VRS, except that the prohibition is for a period of 7 years. People who availed of the VER scheme are not

eligible to compete in this competition. People who availed of the VRS scheme and who may be successful in this competition will have to prove their eligibility (expiry of period of non-eligibility).

Department of Environment, Community & Local Government (Circular Letter LG(P) 06/2013)

The Department of Environment, Community & Local Government Circular Letter LG(P) 06/2013 introduced a Voluntary Redundancy Scheme for Local Authorities. In accordance with the terms of the Collective Agreement: Redundancy Payments to Public Servants dated 28 June 2012 as detailed above, it is a specific condition of that VER Scheme that persons will not be eligible for re-employment in any Public Service body [as defined by the Financial Emergency Measures in the Public Interest Acts 2009 – 2011 and the Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act 2012] for a period of 2 years from their date of departure under this Scheme. These conditions also apply in the case of engagement/employment on a contract for service basis (either as a contractor or as an employee of a contractor).

Declaration

Applicants will be required to declare whether they have previously availed of a Public Service scheme of incentivised early retirement. Applicants will also be required to declare any entitlements to a Public Service pension benefit (in payment or preserved) from any other Public Service employment and/or where they have received a payment-in-lieu in respect of service in any Public Service employment.

Principal Conditions of Service

General

While it is envisaged that appointments arising from this competition will be to a full-time permanent position in the public service (following an appropriate initial probationary period), the FSPO reserves the right to use the panel formed from this competition to fill other vacancies which may arise which may not be permanent in tenure.

Pay

The salary and terms and conditions for a Higher Executive Officer are those, as set out below, that currently apply to Higher Executive Officer (Standard Scale PPC) in the public service.

Higher Executive Officer (PPC)

€60,029	€61,785	€63,537	€65,286	€67,044	€68,792
€70,547	€73,077 ¹	€76,546 ²			

Long service increments may be payable after 3 (LSI1) and 6 (LSI2) years' satisfactory service at the maximum of the scale.

Candidates should note the following:

- Entry will be at the minimum of the salary scale and will not be subject to negotiation**
- The rate of remuneration may be adjusted from time to time in line with Government pay policy.
- Increments may be awarded subject to satisfactory performance, in line with Government pay policy.

****Important Note for candidates currently in Civil or Public Service Employment**

Different terms and conditions may apply if, immediately prior to appointment, the appointee is already a serving Civil Servant or Public Servant.

Tenure

The appointment will be for a permanent post in the public service. The appointee will be required to serve a 10-month probationary period.

Assignment / Location

The successful candidate's place of work will be the FSPO's offices at Lincoln House, Dublin 2. Presently, FSPO staff can apply to work remotely for up to three days per week. This is subject to business needs, performance, and the requirements of the role. Future working arrangements will be determined by the broader public service policy framework.

When required to travel on official duty the appointee will be paid appropriate travelling expenses and subsistence allowances, subject to normal public service regulations.

Hours of Attendance

Hours of attendance will be fixed from time to time but will amount to not less than 43 hours and 15 minutes **gross** per week. Normal working hours will be 9.00am to 5.45pm Monday to Thursday, and 9.00am to 5.15pm on Friday, with 1 hour and 15 minutes for lunch break [37 hours net per week] subject to any change required in the normal course of business or as otherwise agreed.

The successful candidate will be required to work such additional hours from time to time as may be reasonable and necessary for the proper performance of his/her duties subject to the limits set down in the working time regulations. The FSPO operates a Flexible Working Arrangements System (flexi-time) for certain grades, including Higher Executive Officer.

Annual Leave

The annual leave allowance for the position of Higher Executive Officer is 29 days, rising to 30 days after 5 years' service. This allowance is subject to the usual conditions regarding the granting of annual leave in the Civil Service, is based on a five-day week and is exclusive of the usual public holidays.

Health

A candidate for, and any person holding the office, must be fully competent and capable of undertaking the duties attached to the office and be in a state of health such as would indicate a reasonable prospect of ability to render regular and efficient service.

Sick Leave

Pay during properly certified sick absence, provided there is no evidence of permanent disability for service, will apply on a pro-rata basis, in accordance with the provisions of the sick leave circulars.

Appointees who will be paying the Class A rate of PRSI, will be required to sign a mandate authorising the Department of Social Protection to pay any benefits due under the Social Welfare Acts direct to the Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman. Payment of salary during illness will be subject to the appointee making the necessary claims for social insurance benefit to the Department of Social Protection within the required time limits.

Superannuation and Retirement

The successful candidate will be offered the appropriate superannuation terms and conditions as prevailing in the public service, at the time of being offered an appointment. In general, and except for candidates who have worked in a pensionable (non-single scheme terms) public service job in the 26 weeks prior to appointment (see paragraph d below), this means being offered appointment based on membership of the Single Public Service Pension Scheme ("Single Scheme"). Key provisions attaching to membership of the Single Scheme are as follows:

A. Pensionable Age

The minimum age at which retirement benefits are payable is the same as the age of eligibility for the State Pension, currently 66 years.

B. Retirement Age

Scheme members must retire at the age of 70.

C. Pension Abatement

If the appointee was previously employed in the Civil/Public Service and is in receipt of a pension from the Civil/Public Service normal abatement rules will apply. However, if the appointee was previously employed in the Civil/Public Service and awarded a pension under voluntary early retirement arrangements (other than the Incentivised Scheme of Early Retirement (ISER) or the Department of Health Circular 7/2010 VER/VRS which, as indicated above, renders a person ineligible for the competition) the entitlement to that pension will cease with effect from the date of reappointment. Special arrangements will, however, be made for the reckoning of previous service given by the appointee for the purpose of any future superannuation award for which the appointee may be eligible.

If the appointee was previously employed in the Civil Service or in the Public Service, please note that the Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act 2012 includes a provision which extends abatement of pension for all Civil and Public Servants who are re-employed where a Public Service pension is in payment. This provision to apply abatement across the wider public service came into effect on 1 November 2012.

This may have pension implications for any person appointed to this position who is currently in receipt of a Civil or Public Service pension or has a preserved Civil or Public Service pension which will come into payment during his/her employment in this position.

Department of Education and Skills Early Retirement Scheme for Teachers Circular 102/2007

The Department of Education and Skills introduced an Early Retirement Scheme for Teachers. It is a condition of the Early Retirement Scheme that with the exception of the situations set out in paragraphs 10.2 and 10.3 of the relevant circular documentation, and with those exceptions only, if a teacher accepts early retirement under Strands 1, 2 or 3 of this scheme and is subsequently employed in any capacity in any area of the public sector, payment of pension to that person under the scheme will immediately cease. Pension payments will, however, be resumed on the ceasing of such employment or on the person's 60th birthday, whichever is the later, but on resumption, the pension will be based on the person's actual reckonable service as a teacher (i.e., the added years previously granted will not be taken into account in the calculation of the pension payment).

III-Health-Retirement

Please note that where an individual has retired from a Civil/Public Service body on the grounds of ill-health his/her pension from that employment may be subject to review in accordance with the rules of ill-health retirement within the pension scheme of that employment.

D. Prior Public Servants

While the default pension terms, as set out in the preceding paragraphs, consist of Single Scheme membership, this may not apply to certain appointees. Full details of the conditions governing whether or not a public servant is a Single Scheme member are given in the Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and other Provisions) Act 2012. However, the key exception case (in the context of this competition and generally) is that a successful candidate who has worked in a pensionable (non- single scheme terms) capacity in the public service within 26 weeks of taking up appointment, would in general not become a member of the Single Scheme.

In this case such a candidate would instead be offered membership of the pension scheme for non-established civil servants ("Non-Established State Employee Scheme"). This would mean that the abatement provisions at (c) above would apply, and in addition there are implications in respect of pension accrual as outlined below.

E. Pension Accrual

A 40-year limit on total service that can be counted towards pension where a person has been a member of more than one existing public service pension scheme would apply. This 40-year limit, which is provided for in the Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and other Provisions) Act 2012 came into effect on 28 July 2012. This may have implications for any appointee who has acquired pension rights in a previous public service employment.

F. Additional Superannuation Contribution

This appointment is subject to the Additional Superannuation Contribution (ASC) in accordance with the Public Service Pay and Pensions Act 2017.

Note: ASC deductions are in addition to any pension contributions required under the rules of your pension scheme. For further information in relation to the Single Public Service Pension Scheme for Public Servants please see the following website: [Single Public Service Pension Scheme \(singlepensionscheme.gov.ie\)](http://singlepensionscheme.gov.ie)

Important Notice

The above represents the principal conditions of service and is not intended to be the exhaustive list of all terms and conditions of employment which will be set out in the employment contract to be agreed with the successful candidate.

Application and Selection Process

Before you proceed

Before proceeding with this phase of the selection process, you should satisfy yourself that you meet the education and experience criteria for the post as set out in this booklet.

Communications

The Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman, or Conscia Limited, its recruitment partner, will contact you when necessary, at each stage of the competition by email. You should only submit one email address for all correspondence in relation to this competition.

It is important to note that the email address you provide when applying must be one that you can access at all times. The onus is on the applicant to inform Conscia Limited of any change in email address throughout the recruitment and selection campaign. This can be done by emailing fspo@consciatalent.com. The onus is also on each applicant to ensure that they are in receipt of all communication from the Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman. The Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman does not accept responsibility for communications not accessed or received by an applicant.

How to apply

Our recruitment partner, Conscia Talent, will be managing all aspects of the recruitment process on behalf of the Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman.

All candidates should visit <https://www.consciatalent.com/FSPQ> which provides the application form for this competition. Applications received in any format other than the corresponding application form will not be accepted. Therefore, candidates must ensure they use the correct application form.

The FSPQ expects candidates to complete this application form without the support or use of AI tools as it should reflect the candidate's specific relevant personal experience.

Completed application forms should be uploaded at <https://www.consciatalent.com/FSPQ>.

Only applications fully submitted online will be accepted into the campaign.

Closing Date

Application must be submitted online at <https://www.consciatalent.com/FSPO> to arrive by 1pm on 18th September 2026. Applications will not be accepted after the closing time.

If a candidate does not receive an acknowledgement of receipt of their application within 24 hours of applying, they should email: fspo@consciatalent.com.

Candidates are advised to check their email on a regular basis as email notifications of updates/ tests/ interviews etc. issued to their address may sometimes be filtered into their junk/spam email folders. They are also advised to check all these folders regularly.

The onus is on each applicant to ensure that they are in receipt of all communication from Conscia Limited.

Conscia Limited accepts no responsibility for communication not accessed or received by an applicant.

Selection Process

The selection process may include the following:

- Shortlisting of candidates based on the information contained in their application
- An in-person written exercise/assessment
- Presentation/ technical exercise / work sample, or other exercises or tests that may be deemed appropriate
- Interview(s), either online or in person, as requested by the FSPO.

The anticipated dates for interview are between 5th and 8th October 2026, subject to change.

Candidates invited for interview should make themselves available on the date(s) specified by the FSPO and should ensure that the contact details specified on their application form are correct. A candidate who cannot attend on the specified date/time for interview and/or the written exercise/presentation, will be deemed to have withdrawn from the competition.

Shortlisting

Normally the number of applications received exceeds the numbers required to fill existing and future vacancies. While a candidate may meet the eligibility requirements of the competition, if the numbers applying for the positions are such that it would not be practical to assess and/or interview everyone, the FSPO may decide that only a certain number of candidates will be called to interview.

In this respect, the FSPO provides for the employment of a shortlisting process to select a group for interview who, based on an examination of the application forms, appear to be the most suitable for the position. This is not to suggest that other candidates are necessarily unsuitable, or incapable of undertaking the job, rather that there are some candidates who are, *prima facie*, better qualified and/or have more relevant experience.

Candidates with Disabilities

If a candidate requires reasonable accommodation to be made at any stage of the selection process, please make this known by stating your requirements by email to hr@fspo.ie. Every effort will be made to make the necessary reasonable arrangements to assist you.

Confidentiality

Subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2014, applications will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Other Important Information

The FSPO will not be responsible for refunding any expenses incurred by candidates.

The admission of a person to a competition, or invitation to attend interview, or a successful result notification, is not to be taken as implying that the FSPO is satisfied that such a person fulfils the requirements or is not disqualified by law from holding the position and does not carry a guarantee that your application will receive further consideration.

It is important, therefore, for you to note that the onus is on you to ensure that you meet the eligibility requirements for the competition before attending for interview. If you do not meet these essential entry requirements but nevertheless attend for interview you will be putting yourself to unnecessary effort and/or expense.

Prior to recommending any candidate for appointment to this position, the FSPO will make all such enquiries that are deemed necessary to determine the suitability of that candidate. Until all stages of the recruitment process have been fully completed, a final determination cannot be made, nor can it be deemed or inferred that such a determination has been made.

Should the person recommended for appointment decline, or having accepted it, relinquish it or if an additional vacancy arises, the FSPO may, at its discretion, select and recommend another person for appointment on the results of this selection process.

Candidates' Rights – Review procedures in relation to the selection process

The FSPO will consider requests for review in accordance with the provisions of the codes of practice published by the CPSA. The Codes of Practice are available on the website of the Commission for Public Service Appointments <http://www.cpsa.ie/>.

Candidates' Obligations

Candidates should note that canvassing will disqualify and will result in their exclusion from the process.

Candidates must not:

- knowingly or recklessly provide false information,
- canvass any person with or without inducements, or
- interfere with or compromise the process in any way.

A third party must not impersonate a candidate at any stage of the process.

Any person who contravenes the above provisions or who assists another person in contravening the above provisions is guilty of an offence. A person who is found guilty of an offence is liable to a fine/or imprisonment.

In addition, where a person found guilty of an offence was or is a candidate at a recruitment process, then:

- where he/she has not been appointed to a post, he/she will be disqualified as a candidate; and
- where he/she has been appointed subsequent to the recruitment process in question, he/she shall forfeit that appointment.

Specific candidate criteria

Candidates must:

- Have the knowledge and ability to discharge the duties of the post concerned
- Be suitable on the grounds of character
- Be suitable in all other relevant respects for appointment to the post concerned

and if successful, they will only be appointed to the post where they:

- Agree to undertake the duties attached to the post and accept the conditions under which the duties are, or may be required to be, performed

And

- Are fully competent and available to undertake, and fully capable of undertaking, the duties attached to the position.

Deeming of candidature to be withdrawn

Candidates who do not attend for interview or other test when and where required by the FSPO, or who do not, when requested, furnish such evidence as the FSPO requires in regard to any matter relevant to their candidature, will have no further claim to consideration.

Data Protection

As part of the recruitment and job application process, the FSPO will collect your Personal Data. It is necessary for us to process your Personal Data in order to assess your job application and/or include you in a recruitment initiative. Ultimately, it may also be necessary for us to process your Personal Data in order to take steps to offer and enter into a contract of employment with you. We may disclose some or all of your Personal Data to the following parties: your previous employer(s) (where you have listed them as your referees; Recruiters (where your application is being handled by a Recruiter); outsourced service providers who assist FSPO with recruitment initiatives and campaigns. CPL has been appointed to manage this campaign on behalf of the FSPO. Where you are an unsuccessful job applicant, we will retain your Personal Data for a period of up to 12 Months from interview and 12 months from expiration of panel. If you have any concerns about the way your Personal Data is being used or processed by FSPO, please e-mail dataprotection@fspo.ie. Please see our full [Privacy Statement](#).

Appendix 1 – Key Competencies

Key competencies for effective performance at Higher Executive Officer Level:

Higher Executive Officer



Higher Executive Officer Level Competencies

Effective Performance Indicators

Team Leadership

Works with the team to facilitate high performance, developing clear and realistic objectives and addressing any performance issues if they arise

Provides clear information and advice as to what is required of the team

Strives to develop and implement new ways of working effectively to meet objectives

Leads the team by example, coaching and supporting individuals as required

Places high importance on staff development, training and maximising skills and capacity of team

Is flexible and willing to adapt, positively contributing to the implementation of change

Judgement, Analysis & Decision Making

Gathers and analyses information from relevant sources, whether financial, numerical or otherwise, weighing up a range of critical factors

Takes account of any broader issues, agendas, sensitivities and related implications when making decisions

Uses previous knowledge and experience in order to guide decisions

Uses judgement to make sound decisions with a well-reasoned rationale and stands by these

Puts forward solutions to address problems

Management and Delivery of Results

Takes responsibility and is accountable for the delivery of agreed objectives

Successfully manages a range of different projects and work activities at the same time

Structures and organises their own and others work effectively

Is logical and pragmatic in approach, delivering the best possible results with the resources available

Delegates work effectively, providing clear information and evidence as to what is required

Proactively identifies areas for improvement and develops practical suggestions for their implementation

Demonstrates enthusiasm for new developments/changing work practices and strives to implement these changes effectively

Applies appropriate systems/processes to enable quality checking of all activities and outputs

Practices and promotes a strong focus on delivering high-quality customer service, for internal and external customers

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

Builds and maintains contact with colleagues and other stakeholders to assist in performing role

Acts as an effective link between staff and senior management

Encourages open and constructive discussions around work issues

Projects conviction, gaining buy-in by outlining relevant information and selling the benefits

Treats others with diplomacy, tact, courtesy and respect, even in challenging circumstances

Presents information clearly, concisely and confidently when speaking and in writing

Collaborates and supports colleagues to achieve organisational goals

Specialist Knowledge, Expertise and Self Development

Has a clear understanding of the roles, objectives and targets of self and team and how they fit into the work of the unit and Department/Organisation and effectively communicates this to others

Has high levels of expertise and broad Public Sector knowledge relevant to their area of work

Focuses on self-development, striving to improve performance

Drive and Commitment to Public Service Values

Strives to perform at a high level, investing significant energy to achieve agreed objectives

Demonstrates resilience in the face of challenging circumstances and high demands

Is personally trustworthy and can be relied upon

Ensures that customers are at the heart of all services provided

Upholds high standards of honesty, ethics and integrity